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Substitute for form 1449A-PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application No.	09/638,241
				Filing Date	August 14, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Ferree
				Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	Uyen T. Ho
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	026,314-018

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document No.	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
H	1.	US-3,867,728	02/1975	Stubstad	
	2.	US-3,875,595	04/1975	Froning	
	3.	US-4,349,921	09/1982	Kuntz	
	4.	US-4,665,906	05/1987	Jervis	
	5.	US-4,744,364	05/1988	Kensey	
	6.	US-5,053,046	10/1991	Janese	
	7.	US-5,116,357	05/1992	Eberbach	
	8.	US-5,171,280	12/1992	Baumgartner	
	9.	US-5,356,432	10/1994	Rutkow	
	10.	US-5,534,028	07/1996	Bao	
	11.	US-5,571,189	11/1996	Kuslich	
	12.	US-5,690,674	11/1997	Diaz	
	13.	US-5,702,454	12/1997	Baumgartner	
	14.	US-5,746,765	05/1998	Rabkin	
	15.	US-5,772,661	06/1998	Michelson	
	16.	US-5,846,261	12/1998	Kotula	
	17.	US-5,919,235	07/1999	Husson	
	18.	US-5,980,504	11/1999	Sharkey	
	19.	US-6,007,570	12/1999	Sharkey	
	20.	US-6,180,848	01/2001	Flament	
	21.	US-6,224,630	5/2001	Bao	
	22.	US-6,245,107	06/2001	Ferree	
	23.	US-6,371,990	04/2002	Ferree	
	24.	US-6,402,750	06/2002	Atkinson	
	25.	US-6,508,839	01/2003	Lambrecht	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	2/27/07
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.</p> <p>This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p>			
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Sheet	2	of	2
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code (if known)				
	26.	EP-0700671	03/1996			
	27.	EP-1180978	05/2005			
	28.	FR-2639823	06/1990			
	29.	WO-00/62832	10/2000			
	30.	WO-01/10316	02/2001			
	31.	WO-01/21246	03/2001			
	32.	WO-01/28464	04/2001			
	33.	WO-01/45577	06/2001			
	34.	WO-95/31946	11/1995			
	35.	WO-95/34331	12/1995			
	36.	WO-98/20939	05/1998			
	37.	WO-99/02108	01/1999			
	38.	WO-99/61840	12/1999			
	39.	WO-99/62439	12/1999			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s) volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	40.	Cathen, Joseph, C., M.D., "Microsurgical Annular Reconstruction (Annuloplasty) Following Lumbar Microdiscectomy: Preliminary Report of a New Technique," Abstract for Poster Presentation, AANS/CNS Section on Disorders Of The Spine And Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting, 1999	
	41.	Nucléoplastie Inter-Somatique Par Voie Postérieure Per-Dissectomie: Concept et Étude Expérimentale. J.L. Husson et al., Restabilisation Inter-Somatique Du Rachis Lombar, Sauramps Medical, 1996 pp. 311-320 [and English translation]	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

2/27/07

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